

KING SPAWN®



SEAN
LEWIS

THOMAS
NACHLIK

30
EST. 1992
image

9

DIGITAL
EDITION

KING SPAWN®



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TODD McFARLANE

PREVIOUSLY IN *KING SPAWN*

Black Azrael finally confronts Spawn about the death of Wanda and the role he played. The offer is made... Will Spawn take the throne?

BLACK AZRAEL SENT SPAWN TOWARDS THE PITS OF CHAOS. TO A PLACE HE CALLED "THE GREEN" ALONG WITH A CRYPTIC MESSAGE:

"ASK GAIA ABOUT WANDA. YOU MIGHT NOT LIKE WHAT YOU HEAR."

WHAT DID HE MEAN BY THAT? IS THIS ALL CONNECTED TO THE COURT OF PRIESTS? A GROUP HE'S WASN'T ABLE STOP. SPAWN KNOWS HE CAN'T GO AT THEM DIRECTLY, SO HE'LL HAVE TO DEVISE A NEW PLAN.

BUT FIRST, HE NEEDS TO KNOW IF THEY'RE SOMEHOW USING WANDA. THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERS.

TERRY SAID, "YOU'RE LETTING THEM MAKE THIS PERSONAL, AL".

HE'S CORRECT BECAUSE VENGEANCE IS **ALWAYS** PERSONAL!

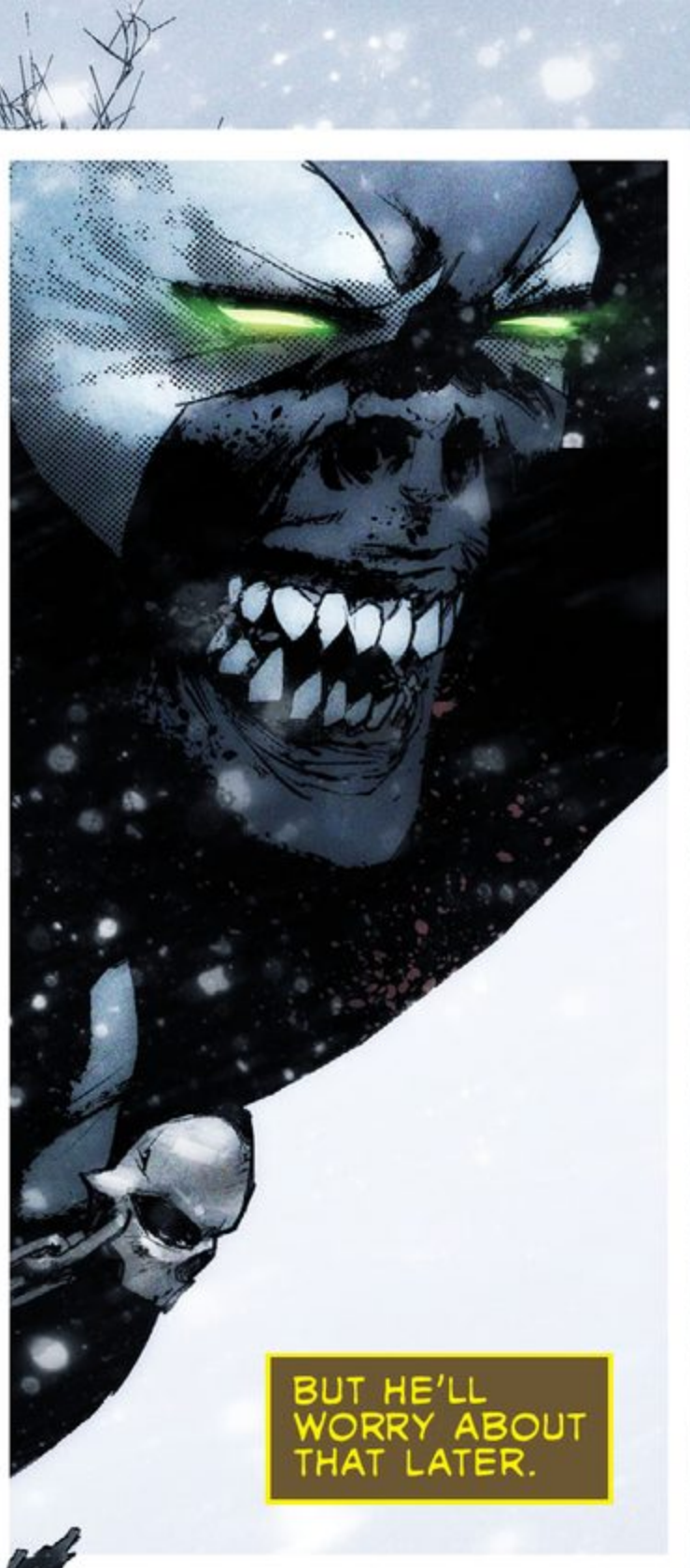




A TINY PLANT, GROWING BETWEEN CRACKS IN SOME BROKEN CONCRETE HAD "INVITED" SPAWN HERE.



NOW THAT HE'S ARRIVED, HE FEELS THE COLD, WHICH MEANS HIS POWERS ARE BEING DRAINED.



BUT HE'LL WORRY ABOUT THAT LATER.



BECAUSE HE DOESN'T KNOW HOW MUCH OF THAT POWER HE MAY NEED IN THE NEXT FEW MINUTES.

YOU ARE INTRUDING.

I DIDN'T ASK TO COME, SOMEONE WANTED ME HERE.

I WANT TO KNOW WHY?



SURELY, YOU AREN'T THAT DELUSIONAL, SIMMONS? YOU MUST HAVE SOME IDEA OF YOUR PART IN ALL OF THIS?

IF YOU DON'T...



...YOU'RE
USELESS
TO US!

THIS IS HOW ALL GODS
NEGOTIATE. FIRST, BY
NEUTRALIZING THEIR
ENEMY'S STRENGTHS.



THEN ATTACK WITH
ALL THEIR MIGHT!

YOUR PAST
ISN'T STRONG
HERE, SPAWN. YOUR
INFLUENCE MEANS
NOTHING!

THE GREEN HAD
BEEN AN UNLIKELY
ALLY TO SPAWN IN
THE PAST. BUT--
THE SIGIL. BLACK
AZRAEL. THE
CHILD, SIMON...





...HE SENSES THEY'RE
PART OF THIS TOO.
PART OF SOME
MACABRE PUZZLE.

ENOUGH OF
YOUR LACKEYS,
ORACLE!

TELL
ME!

WHERE'S
GAIA?

BOOM



YOU'RE
TRESPASSING
HERE! YOU'VE
LOST ALL RIGHTS
TO DEMAND
ANYTHING.

AND THE
DEEPER INTO THE
INNER GARDEN YOU
ENTER, THE MORE
YOU BECOME WHAT
YOU TRULY
ARE.



AND WHAT
IS SPAWN?



HE'S SOMEONE DESPERATE TO
BE A MAN AGAIN. HE'LL NEVER
BE THAT AGAIN, BUT THAT
HASN'T STOPPED HIM WANTING
IT EVERY DAY SINCE BEING
CURSED AS A HELLSPAWN.

WHERE'S
GAIA?

AND ONCE YOU STRIP
AWAY EVERYTHING ELSE,
THAT'S WHAT MAKES HIM
"SPECIAL."

HE CLUTCHES HER THROAT, NOT TO HARM HER BUT TO ASSERT HIS RANK. HE CAN DOMINATE HER REGARDLESS OF HIS FORM. HUMAN. HELLSPAWN. AL DOESN'T GIVE A DAMN HOW HE LOOKS.

FOR THIS ORACLE, SHE HAD WARNED HIM AFTER HE DEFEATED KINCAID: "IF YOU DON'T END THIS PITIFUL WAR, MY MASTER WILL."

WHERE
IS YOUR
MASTER?

I AM
HERE

AND
I'VE BEEN
WATCHING
YOU.

THE VOICE IS GAIJA'S--
NATURE'S QUEEN! WHOSE
TENOR SPLITS THE AIR,
TURNING THE WIND
INTO A TORNADO.



SHE IS HERE. SHE
IS EVERYWHERE.

SPEAK.

I WAS
TOLD TO ASK
YOU, ABOUT A
SOUL--HER NAME
WAS WANDA
BLAKE.

**I
KNOW.**

YOU
KNOW, WHAT?
WHAT'RE YOU
HIDING?

**EVERY-
THING. WE'RE
HIDING
EVERYTHING,
SPAWN.**



ALL
THE PIECES OF
EARTH YOU HUMANS
HAVEN'T ALREADY
CONTAMINATED. WE'RE
HIDING THE SOULS OF
CHILDREN YOU HELL-
SPAWN COULDN'T
SAVE.

I'M HIDING
A BETTER WORLD.
ONE THAT WILL SHINE
WHEN YOUR WARS
WITH HEAVEN AND
HELL HAVE PLAYED
THEMSELVES
OUT.

A WAR
ANY OF YOU
COULD HAVE
PREVENTED
IF YOU
CHOSE.

YOUR
EGOS WON'T
LET YOU STOP. ANY
OF YOU! THAT HUBRIS
HAS EATEN MANY A
GOD. YOU COULD HAVE
BEEN KING, BUT YOUR
NATURE IS FAR TOO
CRUEL TO HOLD
THAT ROLE.



"OR HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN OUR HISTORY?"

"COGLISTRO. MEDIEVAL SPAWN. BLACK AZRAEL. I INDULGED THEM ALL."

"KNOWING THAT, HOWEVER DISTASTEFUL IT MAY BE, THEY TOO ARE PART OF THE FUTURE. ONE WHERE YOU FINALLY LEARNED HOW TO BECOME, HOW TO ACT, LIKE A RIGHTFUL KING. WHERE ALL WARS END, ALLOWING EARTH TO GROW ONCE MORE."



"YOU CAME YEARS AGO.* THE GREEN TOOK YOUR POWERS THEN TO TEACH YOU SOME HUMILITY."

*SPAWN #75 --THOMAS



"THE DARK GOD, URIZEN, REMEMBER, HE LOOKED LIKE HE WOULD DEFEAT YOU, BUT MY ARMIES SAVED BOTH OUR WORLDS."



"AZRAEL WANTS YOU TO EMBRACE THAT FUTURE. AS DO I. NATURE IS THE LAST FACTION IN THE FRAY, NEEDING TO RID YOU OF YOUR CRUEL SOUL, FIRST."



BEFORE
TAKING **ANY**
CROWN!

STRIKE
HIM, MY
CHILD!



THE BLAST FROM
THE KINGSLAYER'S
SWORD WEAKENS
SPAWN FURTHER.



AL TURNS AND
DEFENDS HIMSELF



REVEALING
THE BOY,
SIMON, TO AL.



MAGICALLY, THOUGH, THAT BOY WHO DIED IN A PLANNED EXPLOSION, HAS SOMEHOW AGED. HE IS NO LONGER JUST A CHILD.

YOU SHOULD'VE LET ME GO OR BE TAKEN BY KINCAID. I'LL MAKE YOU REGRET THAT.

HERE HE WAS, ANOTHER VICTIM OF AN ARMY THAT TURNS CHILDREN INTO SOLDIERS.

PSALMS 137. EXODUS FOUNDATION. GAIA AND HER GREEN. THEY'RE ALL GUILTY OF THIS.

CONVINCING CHILDREN'S SOULS THAT THEY HAVE A PURPOSE--THAT THEY'RE "SPECIAL" SOMEHOW. THEY ARE KNIGHTS IN A FAIRY TALE.



AND SOMEONE
LIKE SPAWN IS
THE DRAGON.



RARELY DO ANY
QUESTION WHY
THEY MUST SLAY
THE DRAGON.

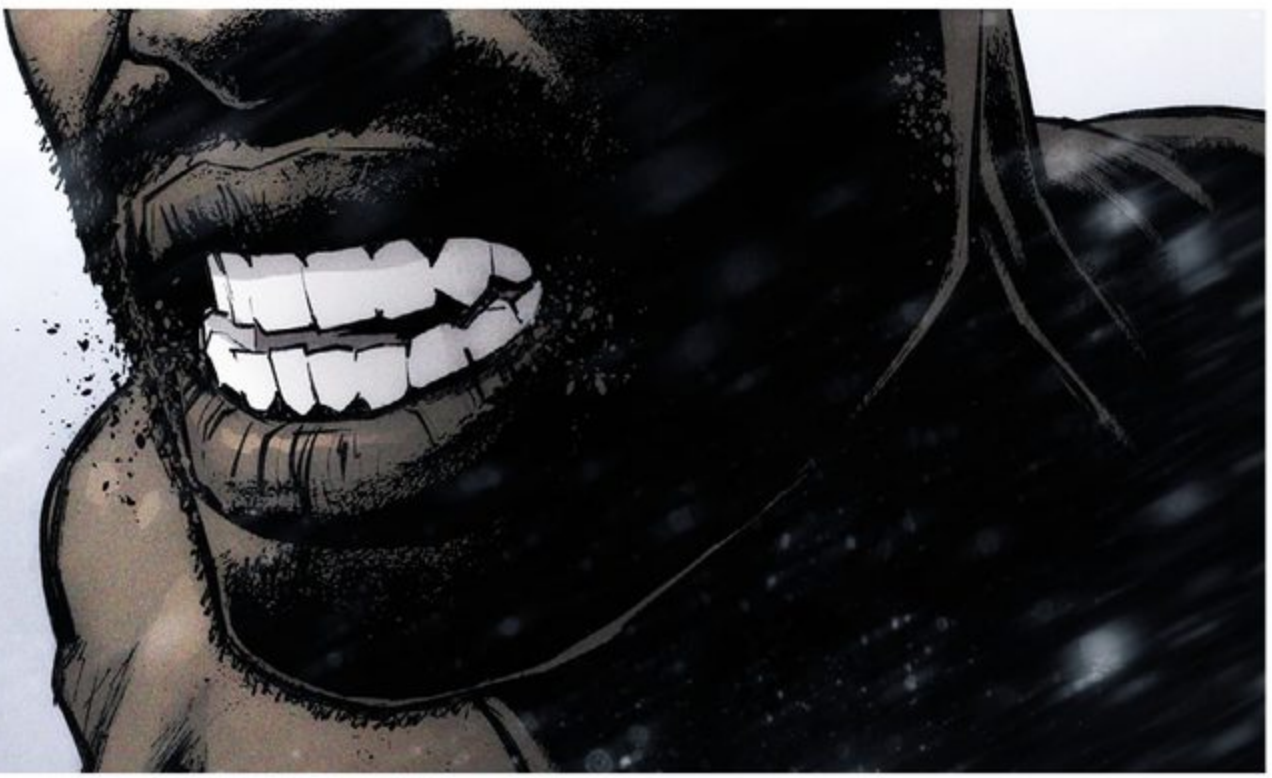


BUT AL KNOWS
THEY'RE VICTIMS,
JUST LIKE HE WAS.



YOU ARE
A MAN IN THE
INNER GARDEN,
NOT A GOD.
CHOOSE YOUR
ACTIONS
WISELY.

BUT
SHOULD
YOU WIN, YOU
WILL NEED
TO DESTROY
THE **HEAP**
NEXT!

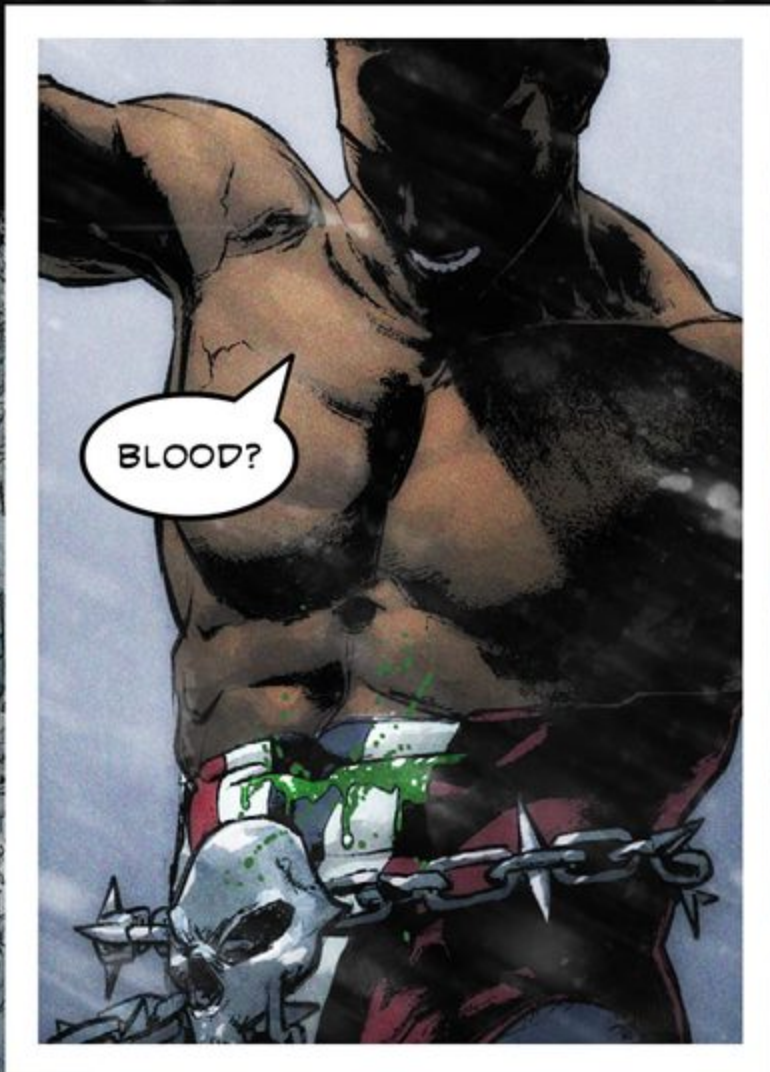


THIS
PLACE
HAS TURNED
YOU ALL
INSANE!



THROUGH HIS ANGER, ONE QUESTION SEARS AL'S BRAIN; **WHY?**

WHY DID GAIA BRING AL HERE? TO FIGHT A BOY?! NO, THAT CAN'T BE THE ANSWER.



SHE NEEDS SOMETHING, TOO. SOMETHING TO HELP PROTECT HER DOMAIN.

A SACRIFICE OF SOME KIND, MAYBE.



SIMON! THEY'RE USING YOU.

YOU LIE, DEMON!



I'LL
BEAT YOU
SENSELESS IF
THAT'S WHAT
IT TAKES,
BOY!

BUT
THEY'RE USING
YOU, SO I'D
RATHER *HURT*
THEM NOT
YOU!

THEY TOLD SIMON HE WAS
THE '*KINGSLAYER*'...HE ISN'T
READY TO SLAY ANYTHING YET.

GAIA!
THAT'S YOUR
PLAN, FOR ME
TO FIGHT A CHILD?
IF MY POWERS
WORKED HERE,
I'D...



THEN
SHOW
ME.



SHOW
ME WHAT
YOU WOULD
DO!



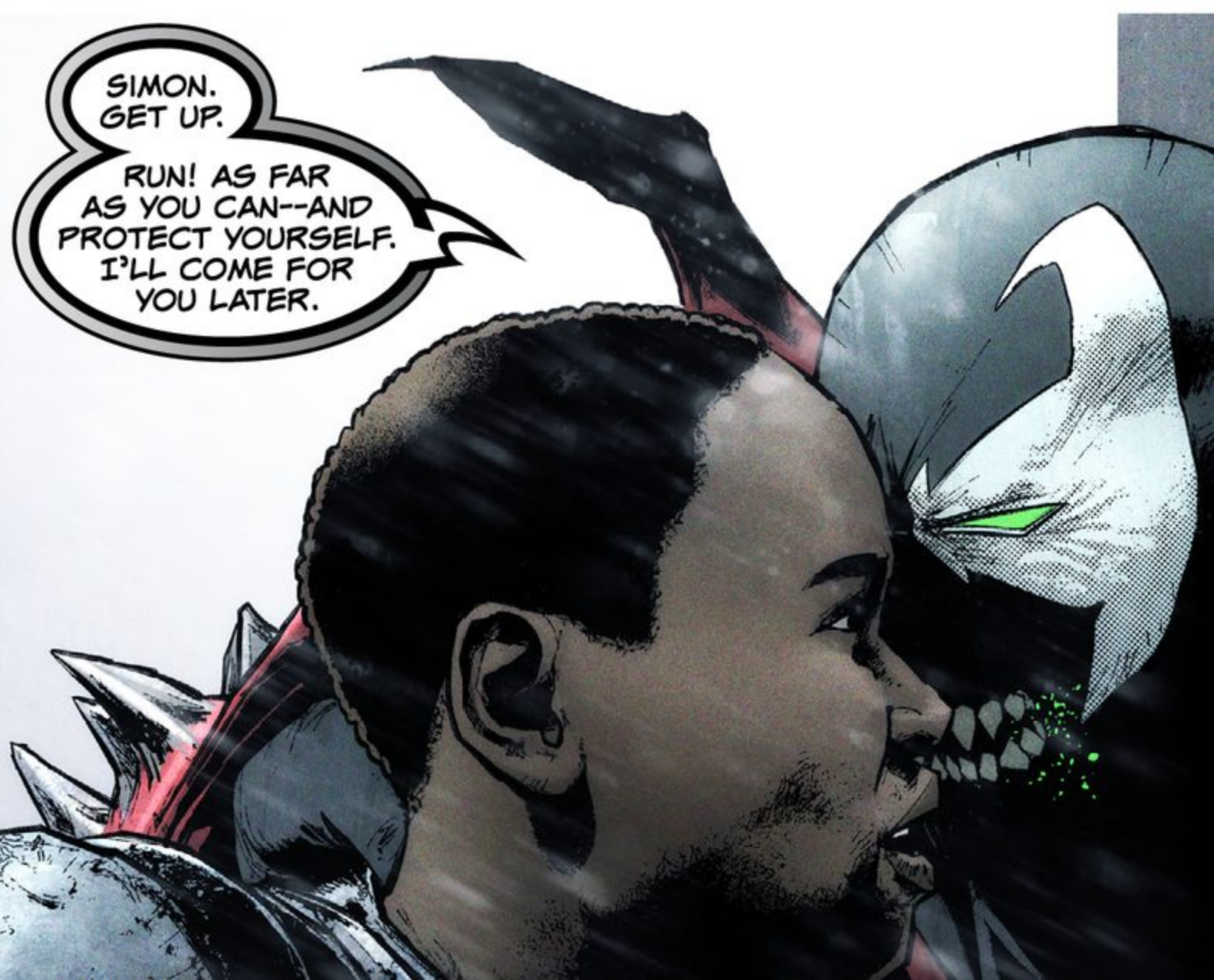
WITH HIS SYMBIOTE
COURSING THROUGH HIS
VEINS ONCE AGAIN...

...THAT'S
EXACTLY WHAT
SPAWN DOES.



SIMON.
GET UP.

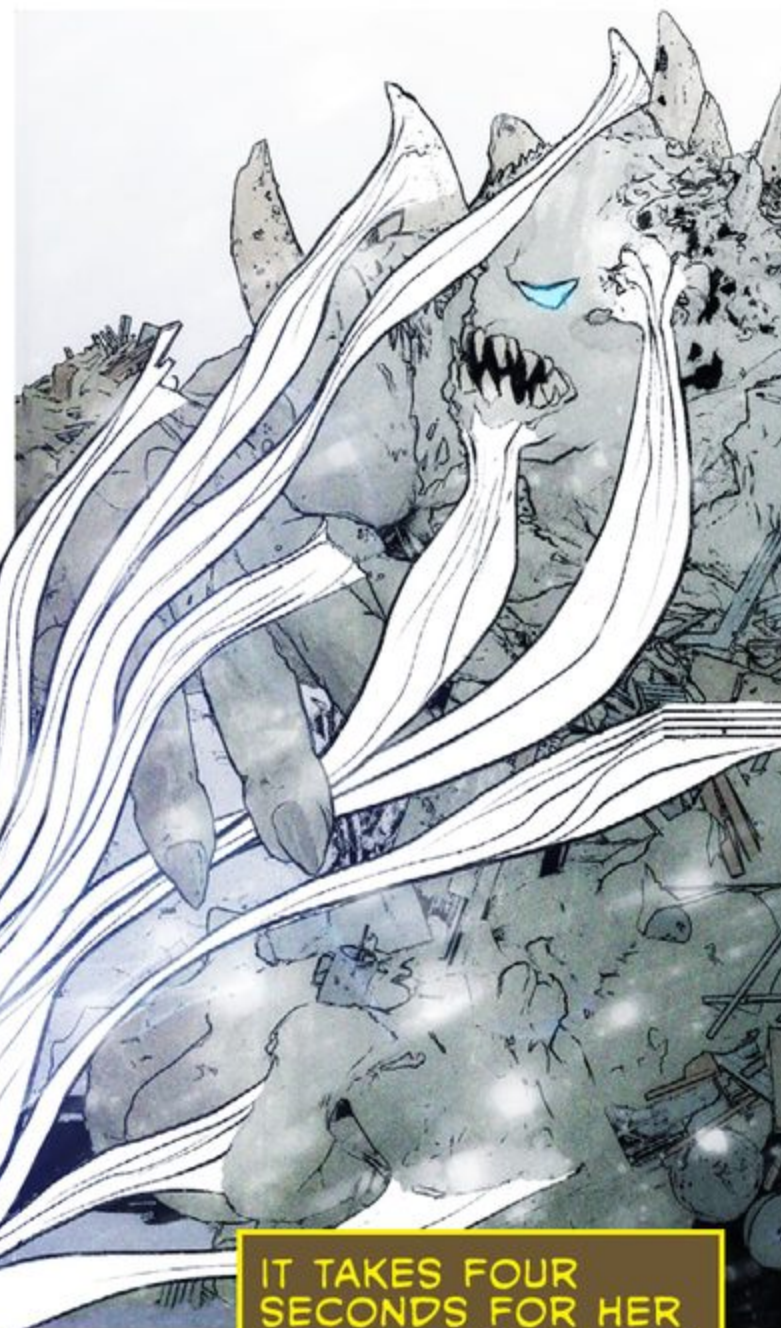
RUN! AS FAR
AS YOU CAN--AND
PROTECT YOURSELF.
I'LL COME FOR
YOU LATER.





NO, YOU
WON'T. I CONTROL
THE SOULS HERE;
THEY LISTEN TO MY
WHISPERS NOT
YOURS.

WITH A MERE
WAVE SHE
DEMONSTRATES
THAT FACT.



IT TAKES FOUR
SECONDS FOR HER
TO ABSORB ALL OF
SPAWN'S OPPONENTS.

THE WIND BLOWS AS
SILENCE BLANKETS
THE AREA. THEN SHE
SPEAKS ONCE MORE...

I NEED
TO SHOW YOU
SOMETHING.

AZRAEL
CAME HERE YEARS
AGO, TO DELIVER US A
BODY. ONE HE CLAIMED
WAS TOO IMPORTANT TO
BE LEFT ALONE IN
HEAVEN.



A GUST BLOWS
ACROSS A PATCH OF
SNOW REVEALING ITS
HIDDEN TREASURE.



Wanda?!

SHE'S
NOT
YOURS.

SHE
AND HER
RIGHTS BELONG
TO AZRAEL SINCE
HE BROUGHT
HER ON MY LAND.
BUT THERE IS A
WAY FOR YOU
TO CHANGE
THAT.



AS KING, YOU
CAN RAISE HEAVEN'S
SOULS FROM THE DEAD. AZRAEL
PROMISED ME IF THAT HAPPENED,
YOU AND ALL YOUR KIND WOULD
LEAVE THE EARTH FOREVER.
LETTING YOUR ENTIRE PLANET
RETURN BACK TO ITS
GREEN STATE.

LOSE YOUR
ANGER, BECOME
KING AND
REUNITE WITH
YOUR WIFE.

OR...
I MAKE HER
DUST.





HE HAS WONDERED, A MILLION TIMES SINCE HER DEATH, THAT IF HE HAD ALL THIS POWER, ONE DAY, COULD HE REALLY BRING HER BACK?

BUT HOW? HOW WOULD THAT EVER BE POSSIBLE IF ONE OF HIS TASKS CAN NEVER BE COMPLETED.

BECAUSE HOW CAN AL SIMMONS, THIS VENGEFUL HELLSPAWN, **EVER** LOSE HIS ANGER?



SPAWNING GROUND

APRIL MAILBAG



Hey, guys! I just wanted to drop in and say that I love having so much more *Spawn* each month, even if my shelves and storage boxes do not! I was also wondering if there's any new mini-series plans for characters like the Redeemer or any spawns from other time periods? I loved the old spin-off titles and think it would be great to see some awesome writers and artists tell some wild stories that don't affect your current stories. Additionally, I wanted to share this Biggie

Smalls "King of New York" homage I made back when *King Spawn* launched. I sent a physical copy to Mr. Healy some time ago, but I thought the rest of you might enjoy it, too! Now to go make some room on the shelf for those Reaper and Old Man Spawn spin offs...

-J. Chinn

First off, that is a great 'Homage' piece of art right there, and second, yes, I have it hanging in the Editorial Office as I type this! Thank you so much for it. Now to get to your question, yes, there are plans for additional series and spotlights on other

characters from Spawn's Universe. Other than the obvious ones like Redeemer or She-Spawn, what other characters would you like to see?

-Thomas

Hello!!! Big fan!!! Just curious with *Spawn*, *King Spawn*, *Gunslinger Spawn* and *The Scorched* are you open to do anymore, new titles for these characters in this universe. Like a soul crusher series?

-Josiah

Hi, Josiah. The Spawn Universe is just getting started. Now, I can't give away too much, but if you are looking for some more classic characters to return and some new series to start, you'll be happy to know that we have some very cool stuff in the works.

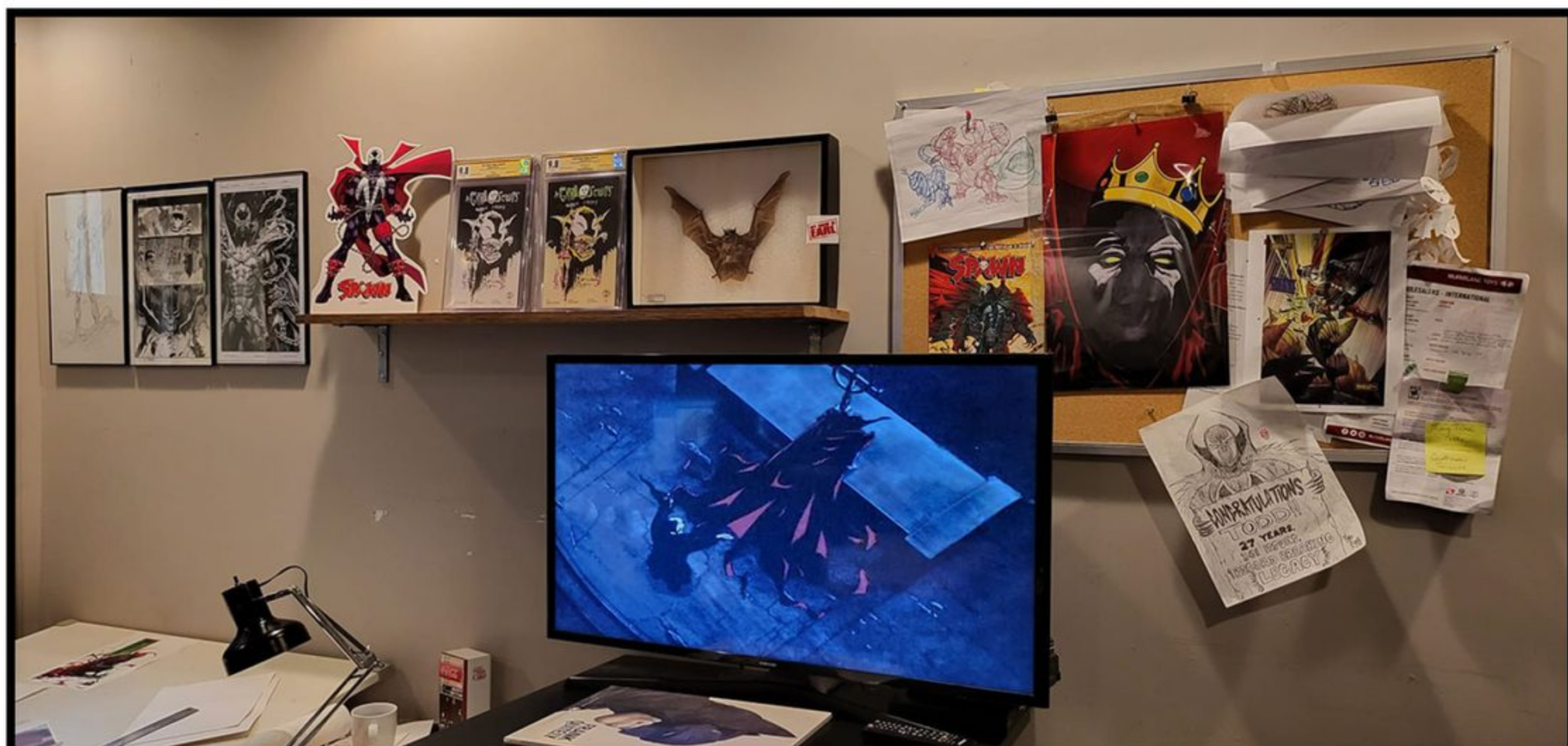
-Thomas

The Scorched is a great series so far with a great set of characters; my question is we have a *Gunslinger Spawn* solo series is there plans for other members of *The Scorched* to have their own series? Or can you not say? Thanks.

-Dave

Dave, we have lots of plans. We have plans within plans. But right now I can't give you all the details. But rest assured that every cool character in the Spawn Universe will be given their time to shine!

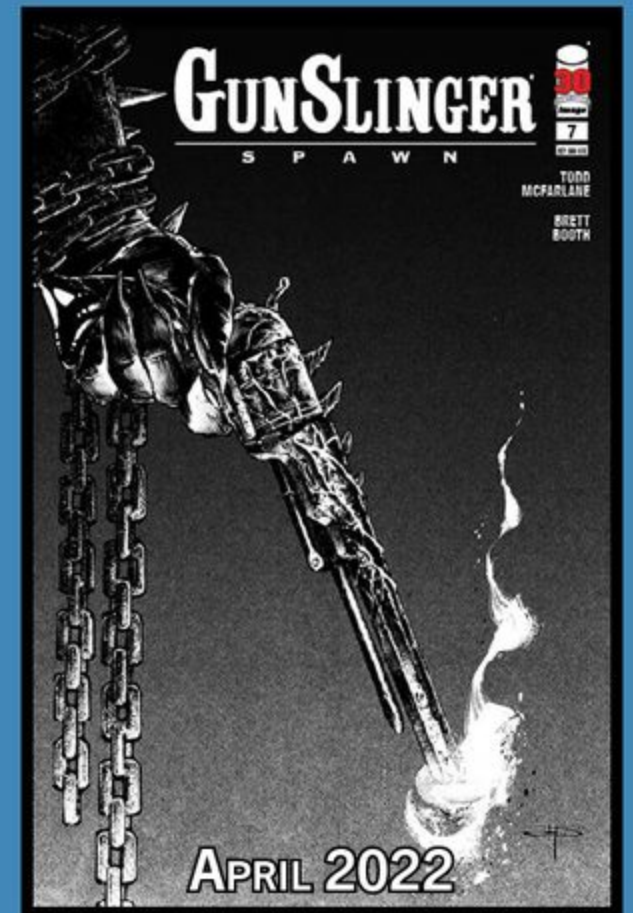
-Thomas



Do you have a question or comment about Spawn? If so, e-mail it to us at:
spawningground@mcfarlane.com

NEED MORE SPAWN'S ? UNIVERSE

DON'T MISS THESE TITLES:

The logo for the Spawn franchise, featuring the word "SPAWN" in a stylized, green, jagged font with a white outline. A white skull is integrated into the letter "A".The logo for "King Spawn", featuring the word "KING" in a bold, black, serif font with a red outline, positioned above the word "SPAWN" in a larger, bold, black, serif font with a red outline. A yellow skull is integrated into the letter "A".The logo for "The Scorched", featuring the word "THE" in a small, blue, sans-serif font, followed by the word "SCORCHED" in a large, bold, blue, sans-serif font with a yellow outline. A white skull is integrated into the letter "O".The logo for "GunSlinger", featuring the word "GUNSLINGER" in a large, bold, black, serif font with a white outline. Below the word is a horizontal line, and the letters "S P A W N" are spaced out below the line.

ONGOING NOW!

VELVET DEADLY CLASS *ROYAL CITY*
LAZARUS **EAST OF WEST** I KILL GIANTS
THE WALKING DEAD I HATE FAIRYLAND
KING CITY *SEX CRIMINALS*
KILL OR BE KILLED **CURSE WORDS** *RATQUEENS*

SOUTHERN BASTARDS **SPAWN** THE WICKED + THE DIVINE **BLUE MONDAY**

MONSTRESS **CHEW** *KINGSMAN*
NOWHERE MEN

HOWTOONS THEY'RE NOT LIKE US **SUNSTONE** SEVEN TO ETERNITY

DESCENDER *PAPER GIRLS*

OCTOPUS PIE WYTCHEs *SHUTTER*

TOKYO GHOST THE BLACK MONDAY MURDERS **BITCH PLANET**

SAGA *MOTOR CRUSH* **WAYWARD** *TREES*
THE AUTUMNLANDS

CRIMINAL **PLUTONA** *LOW*

REVIVAL **NAILBITER**

CAMP MIDNIGHT

SNOTGIRL **ODDLY NORMAL**

MAGE *HINGES*

BLACK SCIENCE

PRETTY DEADLY

THE FADE OUT

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KING SPAWN®

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